

Dear JMAN 2.0 Friends and Members,

I present below a modified agenda of suggestions for work on the thematic line

Trans-border Economic Flows (TEF)

under our responsibility.

Allow me, beforehand, to remind that, in this 2.0 version of the Network, we shall try a different format, which implies that all centres may and should engage in all three themes, though each theme will have a member responsible for its co-ordination and management. Meetings, at least some of them, may also depart from the classical “paper-presentation and short debate” format, with instead ample joint discussion of the prospect papers, books or other products to be delivered.

Papers & work & activities in the TEF line may address, for instance, any of the 13 questions/topics below:

1. How will the China-US Trade and Technology war affect third parties, notably the EU and other Atlantic countries/regions?
2. How will the **re-shoring** (or in-shoring) movement grow? Will the EU and its Atlantic partners become more active in the creation of regional value chains within their space?
3. Which prospects for the WTO? Is not a total overhaul of the institution needed in order to cope with its growing loss of credibility and strength?
4. Which global trade order is to be expected in the post-Covid-19 times?
5. What are the prospects –in terms of full approval, consequences and impact- of the already signed Mercosul-EU trade agreement? How to deal with the absence of Argentina?

6. How far is, or can be, the Mercosul-EU Agreement a tool for sustainable development in the two regions? Is it an old-fashioned, standard free(r) trade agreement?
7. What impacts are expected on transatlantic trade and economic flows due to the increasing use of the digital infrastructure and its related applications?
8. Will it be possible to have a balanced choice as regards foreign investment in digital technologies, as for instance in the 5G case?
9. Innovative approaches for economic flows within the Atlantic region.
10. With lower oil prices, weaker global demand in general, how will Atlantic countries –in Africa, for instance-, heavy energy and commodities exporters, survive and tread a sustainable development path?
11. What is the post-Covid-19 global energy trade scenario? How can Atlantic countries (one or several examples, regions, the EU) position themselves in it?
12. After ‘food security’, how will ‘health security’ fit in the production and trade agenda (of one or several countries, regions, and the EU or select members)?
13. Trends towards improved economic equity in the Atlantic area through trade and investment.

This open format actually demands more homework from the participants. Ideas must be exchanged and contrasted with those of the other centres, and deeper exploitation of synergies must ideally take place.

I invite the two other co-ordinators to put forward, within the coming weeks, a similar list of proposed questions/topics, taking into account the post-Covid-19 reality and its demands.

Any node or member is free to contribute to any theme, and should address his/her proposals to the Theme Co-ordinator.

The Co-ordinating Node must be regularly informed of the progress and activities in the area under its responsibility, ensuring the highest possible harmony and synergy among them, as well as complementarity with the work of the other co-ordinators, enhancing the impact of the final output.

A constant dialogue and information exchange among the three co-ordinating Nodes are envisaged.

Let's resume work!

Warm regards,

Renato Flôres

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